



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Indian Health Service
Rockville, MD 20857

June 26, 2019

Russ Kick
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 69733
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request 19-056, Dated 2/24/19

Dear Mr. Kick:

This letter constitutes my final determination on your February 24, 2019, request received by the Indian Health Service (IHS) on February 24, 2019. This request seeks: "your agency's FOIA request log covering 2018, which includes a field showing the subject of each request and a field for the final disposition." Your request was forwarded to me because of my responsibilities under the FOIA.

Enclosed are the documents you requested. We are withholding names of individuals that are privacy act requests listed in the spreadsheets because the release of their names would be an unwarranted invasion of the individual's personal privacy. This information is withheld based upon the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b) (6), and the Department's Implementing Freedom of Information Act Regulations, 45 C.F.R. § 5.67. The Department's policy calls for the fullest responsible disclosure consistent with administrative necessity and confidentiality recognized by the Act and Regulations. Enclosed are copies of the Act and Regulations.

You have the right to appeal this decision to deny you full access to records within this agency's possession within 90 days from the date you receive this letter.

Should you wish to do so, your appeal must be mailed within 90 days from the date of receipt of this letter, to:

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Agency Chief FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Room 729H
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: FOIARequest@PSC.hhs.gov

Your appeal must follow the procedures outlined in Subpart C of the enclosed Regulations. Please clearly mark both the envelope and your letter "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal in an attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact Janet Ingersoll, Government Information Specialist/FOIA, or the HHS FOIA Public Liaison for assistance at:

HHS FOIA Public Liaison
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Room 729H
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Telephone: (202) 260-0793
E-mail: HHS_FOIA_Public_Liaison@hhs.gov

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is:

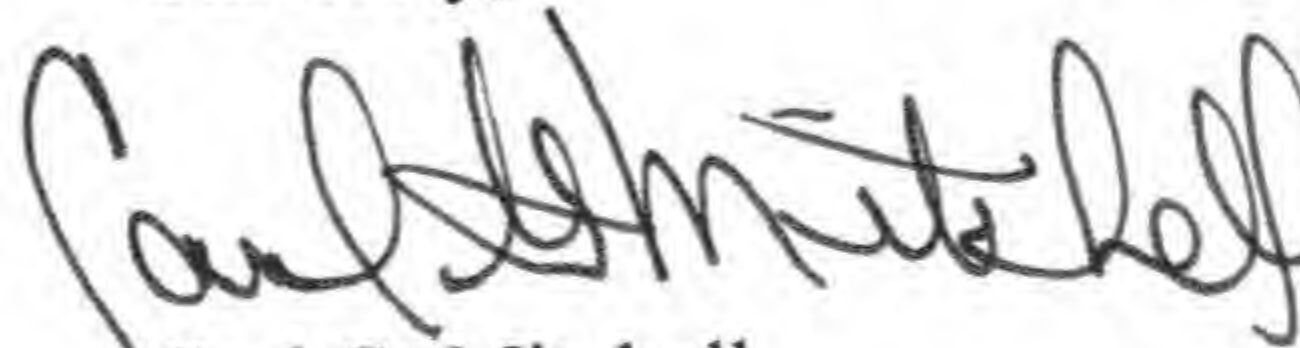
Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Telephone: 202-741-5770
Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Fax: 202-741-5769

Fees for processing your request were minimal and they have been waived. However, you may be charged for future requests.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Janet Ingersoll at (301) 443-6177.

Sincerely,



Carl G. Mitchell
Director, Division of
Regulatory and Policy Coordination,
and FOIA Officer

Enclosure